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USDOC FOR SECRETARY BALDRIDGE
E.O. 12065: GDS 5/19/88 (CLARK, WILLIAM) OR-M --TAGS: EEVT, JA
SUBJECT: SAKHALIN OIL PROJECT

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. MOFA EUROPEAN AND OCEANIC AFFAIRS
 BUREAU DIRECTOR CHERAL FATO CALLED IN DCM
 ON MAY 18 TO DISCUSS THE SAKHALIN PROJECT.
 KATO SAID THAT THEY HAD REPORTS FROM
 WASHINGTON THAT THE NSC HAD DECIDED FOR THE
 TIME BEING TO MAKE NO EXCEPTIONS, INCLUDING
 SAKHALIN, TO THE SANCTIONS POLICY AGAINST
 THE USSR. THIS HE SAID WAS A NEGATIVE
 DECISION AS FAR AS JAPAN WAS CONCERNED
 ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD THAT NO FINAL DECISION
 HAD YET BEEN MADE.
- 3. KATO POINTED OUT THAT THE GOJ HAD RAISED THIS ISSUE TO THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL. HE KOTED THAT FRIME MINISTER SUZUKI HAD RAISED THE ISSUE WITH VICE FRESIDENT EUSH, MITH MINISTER ABE HAD RAISED IT WITH SECRETARY EALDRIDGE IN PARIS, AND THAT THE JAPARESE AMEASSABOR HAD RAISED IT WITH ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE SICESSEL. HE SAID THAT THERE WERE NOW PLANS FOR PM SUZUKI TO MRITE DIPECTLY TO PRESIDENT REAGAN AND FOR ABE TO WRITE TO BALDRIDGE TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE WHICH JAPAN ATTACHES TO THIS CASE.
- 4. HATO REMINDED THE DOM THAT JAPAN HAD SUPPORTED AND CONTINUES TO SUPPORT US SANCTIONS AGAINST THE USSR AT THE TIME OF THE AFGRAN INVACION, DURING THE FOLISH OPISIS, AND THAT JAPAN WAS SUPPORTING THE LS FOSITION, AND PLAYMED TO CONTINUE TO DO SO, AT THE TALKS TO RESTRICT CREDIT TO THE USSR.
- S. KATO SAID THAT TIME WAS VERY SHORT AND THAT JAFAN UNGENTLY MEEDED A POSITIVE DECISION RIGHT HOW, AND IN ANY CASE NO LATER THAN MAY SIST. KATO SAID THAT IF OUR FINAL DECISION IS REGATIVE, THEFE WOULD BE A VERY ADVERSE PEACTION IN JAPAN. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN WHY JAPAN HATHER THAN THE USER WAS BEING PUNISHED BY US SANCTIONS ACAINST. THE SOVIET UNION.
- E. KATO CONCLUDED BY STRONGLY SUGGESTING THAT THE UTS RECONDIDER ITS POSITION AND HE RECUESTED A FAVORABLE REPLY AS COON AS

POSSIBLE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT A NECETIVE U.S. DECISION ON SARRALIN AT THIS TIME WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE RECALLED MOST REGATIVELY BY JAPANESE IN THE EVENT OF A POSSIBLE ULTIMATE U.S. DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUPPLY OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE YAMBURG PIPELINE.

7. COMMENT: THIS ISSUE IS RAPIDLY GROWING IN IMPORTANCE. THE GOJ HAS JUST BEGUN TO REALIZE THAT THE USG MIGHT NOT APPROVE ITS REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSES. THIS HAD NOT REALLY BEEN SENIOUSLY BELIEVED DEFORE, BECAUSE THE GOJ WAS CONVUNCED THAT ITS CASE FOR AN EXCEPTION WAS SO SOUND. WE ARE NOW AT OR VERY NEAR THE POINT WHERE A DELAYED DECISION WILL IN EFFECT BE A REGATIVE DECISION. ONCE THAT POINT IS REACHED, THE FACT WILL RAPIDLY BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, AND WE WILL HAVE A VERY SERIOUS PEGBLEM ON OUR HANDS, IN TERMS OF ABVERSE REACTION BY THE PUBLIC, THE DIET, AND GOJ OFFICIALS. WE STRONGLY URGE A RAPID AND FAVORABLE DECISION ON JAPAN'S REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSES FOR THE SAKHALIN PROJECT.

State Dept. review completed

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INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

FOR SECRETARIES HAIG, WEINBERGER AND BALDRIDGE AND MSC ADVISOR CLARK FROM AMBASSADOR MANSFIELD

BEIJING FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

E.O. 12865: GDS 5/6/88 (MANSFIELD, MICHAEL) DR-M TAGS: EEVT, JA

SUBJECT: SAKHALIN OIL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

- 2. I BELIEVE YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT INFLEXIBILITY IN APPLYING OUR SANCTIONS POLICY DOES NOT COST US THE COOPERATION OF AN ESSENTIAL AND RELIABLE SUPPORTER OF OUR ECONOMIC MEASURES AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION. OUR MOST RECENT ACTIONS TO RESTRICT SOVIET ACCESS TO HIGHER TECHNOLOGY IN THE ENERGY AREA HAVE RESULTED IN THE WITHHOLDING OF EXPORT LICENSES FOR THE CURRENT YEAR,'S OPERATION OF AN EIGHT YEAR OLD JOINT JAPANESE-SOVIET PETROLEUM EXPLORATION PROJECT ON SAKHALIN ISLAND. IF THE JAPANESE CANNOT COMPLETE THIS YEAR'S EXPLORATION, THEY WILL BE IN BREACH OF THE PROJECT CONTRACT AND COULD LOSE THEIR INVESTMENT OF \$170 MILLION AND THEIR RIGHTS TO ONE-HALF OF ALL DIL AND GAS EVENTUALLY PRODUCED.
- 3. THE JAPANESE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT OUR REFUSAL TO ISSUE THE EXPORT LICENSES NEEDED TO AVOID DEFAULT ON THE PROJECT. FOREIGN MINISTER SAKURAUCHI RAISED THIS SUBJECT WITH ME IN MARCH AND FRIME MINISTER SUZUKI ASKED VICE-PRESIDENT EUGH ON APRIL 25 FOR HIS ASSISTANCE IN CETAINING EARLY ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSES IN DEDER TO PERMIT OPERATION DURING THE 1982 SUMMER DRILLING SEASON.
- 4. I NEED NOT RECALL FOR YOU THAT THE JAPANESE STRONGLY SUPPORTED US ON IRAN AND AFGHANISTAN SANCTIONS EVEN THOUGH THE FORMER COST THEM 13 PERCENT OF THEIR OIL SUPPLY AND THE LATTER COST THEM TWO PROJECTS TAKEN OVER BY THE FRENCH AND GERMANS. THEY HAVE FOLLOWED OUR LEAD ON THE FALKLANDS ISSUE, ENGOUNCING THEIR, SUPPORT FOR THE UK RIGHT AFTER WE DID. YOU ARE ALSO AWARE THAT THEY ARE SYMPATHETIC TO OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO EXTEND SANCTIONS AND INCREASE ECONOMIC PRESCUPES ON THE GOVIET UNION. WE WEED THEIR COOPERATION IF OUR EFFORTS ARE TO SUCCEED. IF WE ARE UNABLE TO FIND A WAY TO FERMIT THIS EIGHT-YEAR-OLD JOINT PROJECT TO CONTINUE, WE WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE FRIME MINISTER TO SUSTINY CONTINUED CLOSE COSPERATION WITH THE U.S. IN FEOREGI TO ECONOMIC REPOURED DIRECTED AGAINST THE COVIET UNION. IF WE FORCE TRY JAMPINESE INTO DEFAULT, IT WILL BE ALL GAIN FOR THE SOVIETS AND ALL LOSS FOR JAPAN AND THE

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5. I PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WE CAN SHOW THE JAPANESE IN RESPECT TO THIS PROJECT WILL BE AMPLY REPAID IN THE MONTHS AMEAD.

MANSFIELD

DSTR 312 AC